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Page 3

9. [] LIAISON I informed Brian Conniff, of GAO, that our analysts had determined that a useful briefing on the Soviet submarine threat could not be given at less than a compartmented level, so therefore we would not be able to brief him. Conniff expressed some disappointment, but had read the Director's letter to Comptroller General Elmer Staats so that he was aware of the new guidelines we have set for our dealings with GAO.

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10. [] LIAISON Andrew Hamilton, CBO, who has an outstanding request to be briefed on matters of Agency methodology in determining the size of Soviet military expenditures, called to ask for figures on the gross national product of the Soviet Union and several other eastern European countries in U.S. 1976 dollar figures. Hamilton said that he had derived gross national product figures in rubles from the World of the International Institute of Strategic Studies, in London, but that those figures were converted into U.S. dollars official rate of exchange. His concern was to have more realistic figures.

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11. [] BRIEFING I talked with Gwen Pritchard, in the office of Representative Ike Skelton (D., Mo.), who said that she understood that perhaps 15 Congressmen were going to make the trip to Panama in late November which she had described on 21 October. She said there was a good deal of interest in the briefing and that it had been expressed by many members of the New Members' Caucus after Mr. Skelton had talked about his own briefing by the Agency. She agreed that any briefing would be for members only. We set Tuesday, 1 November, in the Congress, as a possible time and place for the briefing and I said I would confirm it with her as soon as I could. She then said that Terry Modglin and Nicholas Nonnenmacher, of the staff of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Subcommittee on Panama Canal, had learned of the briefing and asked if they could participate, not because they are going on the trip, which they are not, but because of their Committee responsibility for matters of the Canal. I suggested that we be in touch with them directly to talk about a separate briefing and this would permit the 1 November briefing to be potentially more expansive since it would be limited for members only.

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